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Barbara Fisher

Date: 16 February 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of: )  
 )  
REITSMA, Donald Gordon, et. al. )  
 )  
Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP2004/051614 )  
 )  
Int. Filing Date: 27 July 2004 )  
 )  
DRILLING SYSTEM AND METHOD )

16 February 2006

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Box PCT: (DO/EO/US)  
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Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows:

Please replace the abstract with the abstract following: